



#0312

STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

PO Box 47600 • Olympia, WA 98504-7600 • 360-407-6000  
TTY 711 or 800-833-6388 (For the Speech or Hearing Impaired)

March 21, 2005

The Honorable Ronald Covey  
Mayor of the City of Moses Lake  
South 321 Balsam Street  
Post Office Drawer 1579  
Moses Lake, WA 98837

Dear Mayor Covey:

Thank you for your public comment letter received on December 17, 2004, regarding the water quality assessment for phosphorus in Moses Lake. The department is very appreciative of your support of the assessment process, and your interest in the water quality of Moses Lake.

We did receive several comment letters with continued concerns about the listing process. We are providing further information to those individuals that we hope will address their concerns. In the meantime, we are very appreciative of the city's willingness to take a lead role in working with the Ecology to improve the waters of Moses Lake. We are confident that your participation, as well as other interested stakeholders, in conducting the necessary monitoring to determine what further work needs to be done, will be valuable and help move the process forward. Moreover, the proposed Columbia River Initiative contains some features that, if implemented, would result in additional flows of high-quality irrigation-project waters through the lake. In the meantime, the Moses Lake TMDL has been put on hold and we do not plan to revisit the priority of this project until the next scoping session for that given area, which will be in 2006.

If you have any further questions about Washington's Water Quality Assessment, please contact me at 360-407-6414, or by email at [subr461@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:subr461@ecy.wa.gov).

Sincerely,

Susan Braley  
Unit Supervisor  
Water Quality Management



